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**REQUEST FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000 provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.  
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number: 09/506,795  
Filing Date: February 18, 2000  
First Named Inventor: Alain BETHUNE  
Group Art Unit: 1734  
Examiner: G. R. Koch III  
Attorney Docket Number: 5725.0533  
Attorney Customer Number: 22,852

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This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**Note:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) instead of a RCE to be eligible for patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See "Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice," Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000). Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (April 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

**1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114:**

a. ☐ Previously submitted

- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply after final under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief of Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☒ Enclosed:

- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement
- iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

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**2. Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-mentioned application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required.)
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Fees**

a. ☒ The filing fee is calculated as follows:

- i. ☒ \$750.00 RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Petition for extension of time for (\_\_\_\_ Months) \$\_\_\_\_
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$750.00 enclosed.

c. ☒ The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies in the filing fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

**Signature of Applicant, Attorney, or Agent Required**

Name: Andrew J. Vance

Reg. No.: 45,174

Signature: 

Date: June 4, 2003

**Certificate of Mailing or Transmission**

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PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 5725.0533

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
)  
ALAIN BETHUNE et al. ) Group Art Unit: 1734  
)  
Application No. 09/506,795 ) Examiner: G. Koch  
)  
Filed: February 18, 2000 )  
)  
For: MATERIAL SUPPLY STRIP, )  
SYSTEM, AND METHOD OF )  
APPLYING PIECES OF )  
MATERIAL TO OBJECTS )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**AMENDMENT**

In response to the Office Action dated April 9, 2003, and in conjunction with the Request for Continued Examination filed herewith, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph at page 11, lines 2-9 of the application, with the following:

-- In an embodiment, the backing includes labels on the first surface positioned substantially opposite to corresponding labels on the second surface. For example, the labels on the first surface may be centered with respect to the labels on the second surface. This configuration is preferable when labels of different format are provided on

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
www.finnegan.com

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